

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL  
THE DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY  
25 SHATTUCK ST., BOSTON 15, MASS.

December 10, 1954

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am organizing, for the Pharmacology Society, a panel discussion to be held during the Federation meetings next April 10-15 at San Francisco, on the topic "The biochemical basis of acquired microbial resistance to drugs." This will be a discussion that crosses discipline lines, and the audience will very likely be as mixed as the panel participants in this respect.

My plan is to have about 6 participants, each presenting a 15-minute paper, on a general theme, avoiding the temptation to speak in detail about recent data from their own laboratories. There would be discussion between the panel members, and between the panel and the audience.

Demerec will discuss the genetic basis. Bernie Davis will talk about the gene-enzyme relationship and the concept of qualitatively changed enzymes. Eagle will discuss altered binding and diminished penetration. I am hoping that Spiegelman will accept the invitation to talk about metabolic pathways and adaptation in relation to the main problem. I have asked van Niel (though with no hope of success) to introduce or summarize the whole discussion.

It seemed to me that the subject of directed heritable transformations had assumed so important a place recently, that it ought to be especially covered. You have done so much important work in this field that it would be very nice if you could contribute the presentation on this subject. Can I persuade you to?

Unfortunately, I have no money available to pay expenses of participants so I am limited to those who are willing to attend on their own. I am working to meet a deadline, so I would appreciate an early reply. If you are unable, whom would you suggest?

Best regards.



Avram Goldstein